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(54) **GEO-LOCATION VIDEO ARCHIVE SYSTEM AND METHOD**

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See application file for complete search history.

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(57)

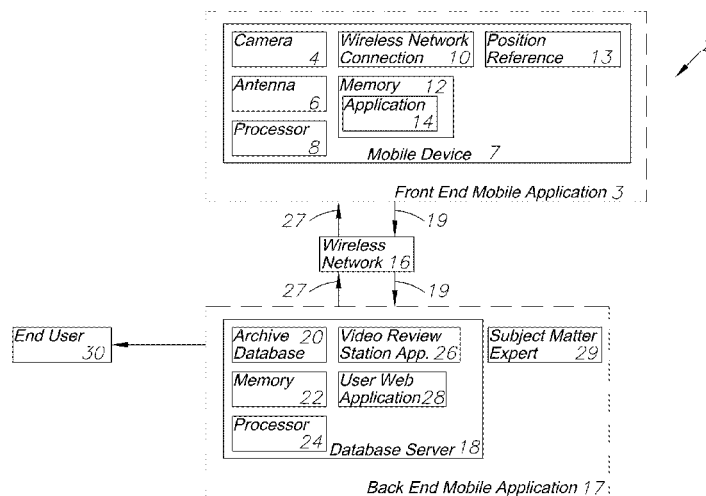
**ABSTRACT**

A system and method for recording, uploading, and archiving video recordings, including a front-end and a back-end application. The preferred embodiment of the present invention includes a front-end application wherein video is recorded using a mobile device. The recorded video is embedded with date, time and GPS location data. The video is stored on an online back-end database which catalogs the video according to the embedded data elements. The video may be selectively reviewed by relevant experts or emergency personnel for immediate response to the uploaded video and/or distribution to the proper parties. The video may also be archived for later review and use by any number of end-users.

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

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**16 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets**



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**H04N 5/91** (2006.01)

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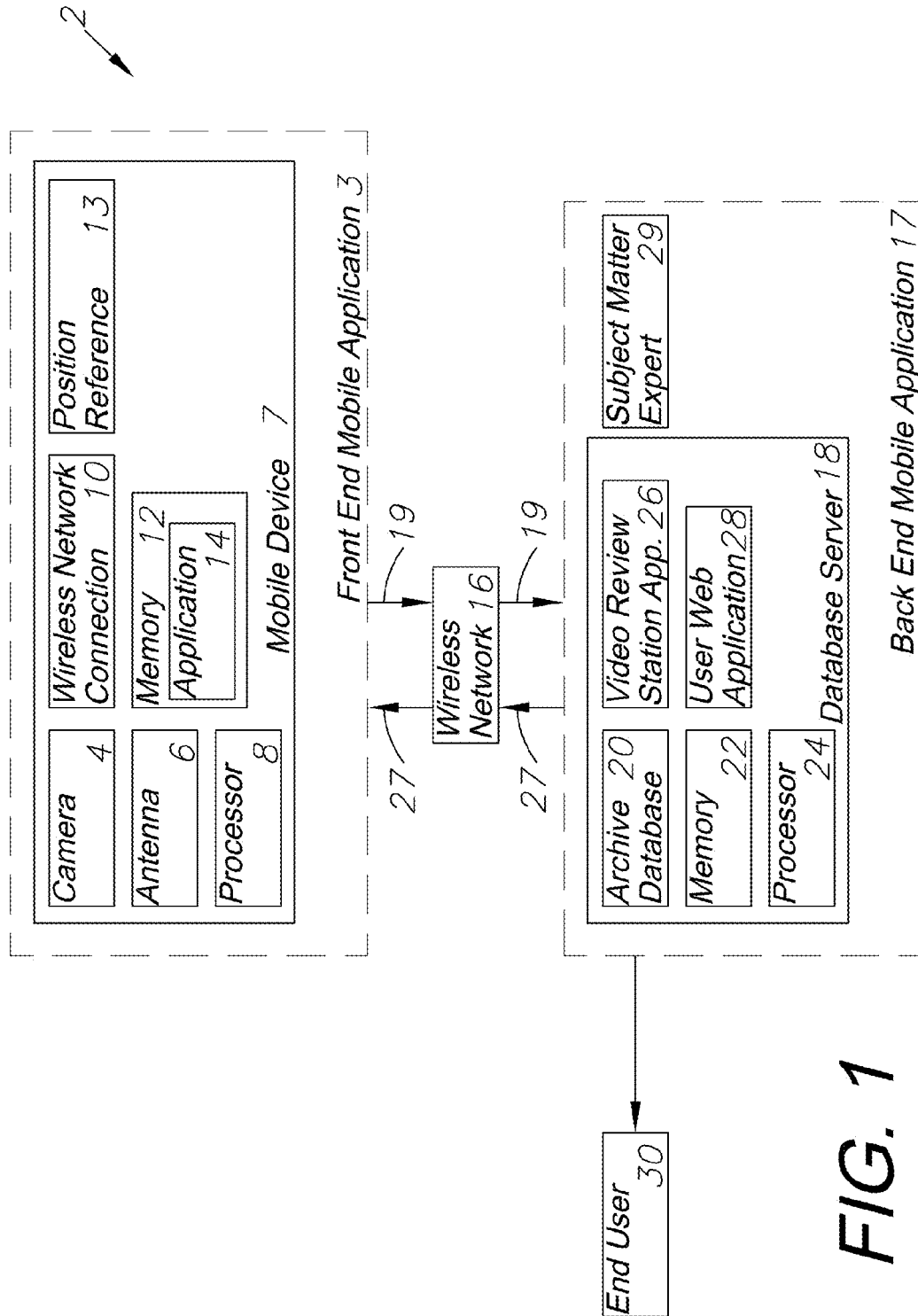
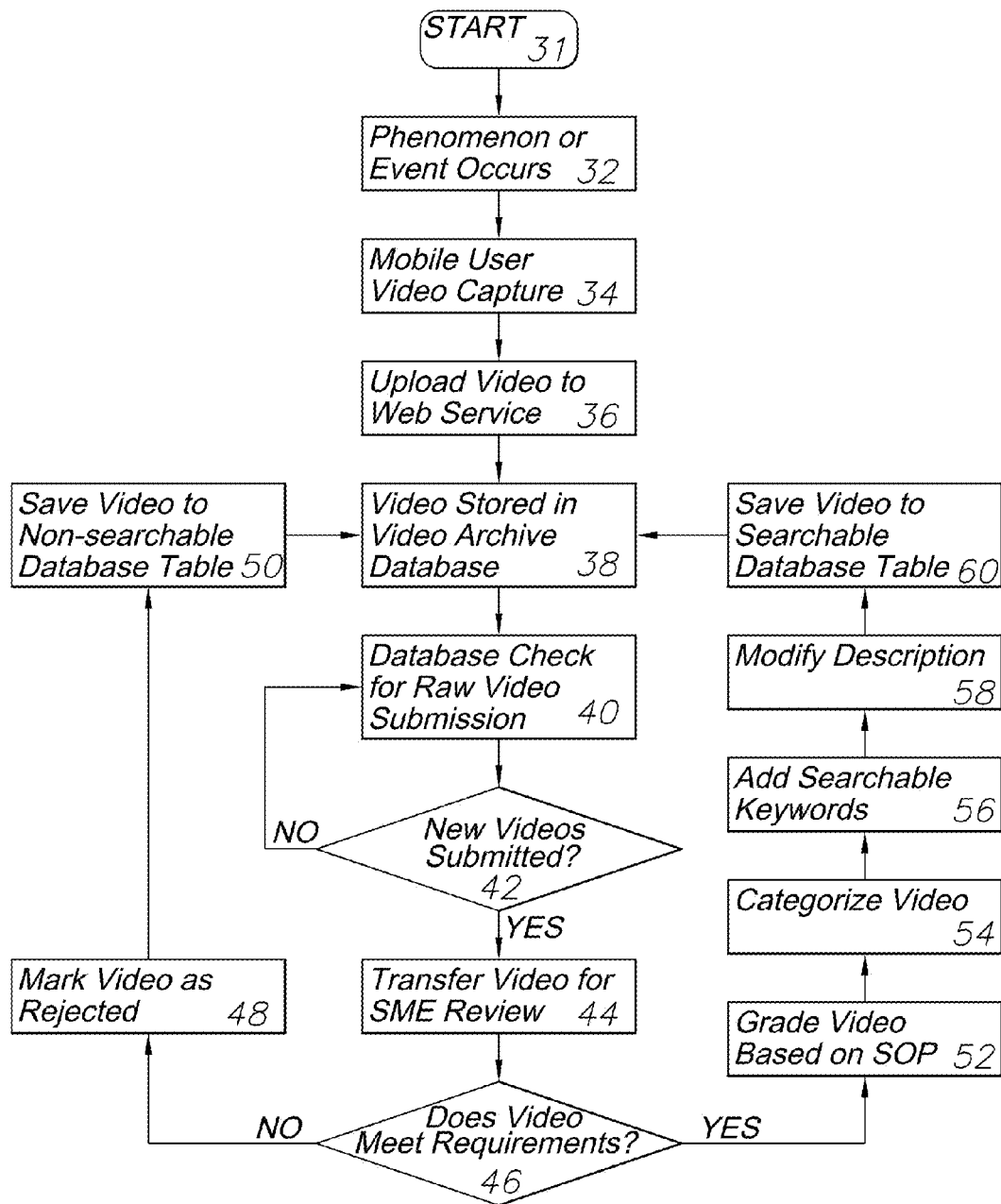


FIG. 1

**FIG. 2**

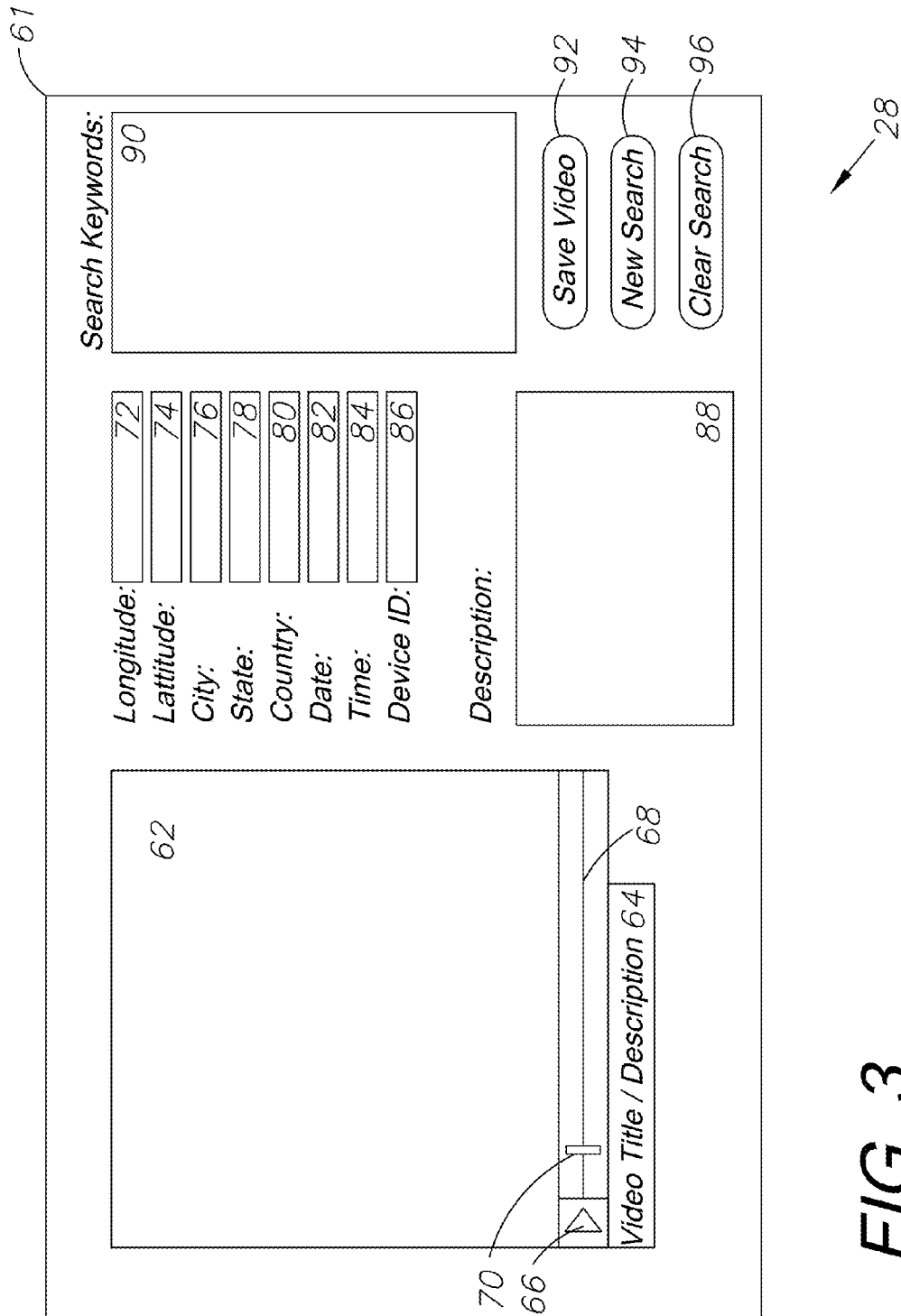


FIG. 3

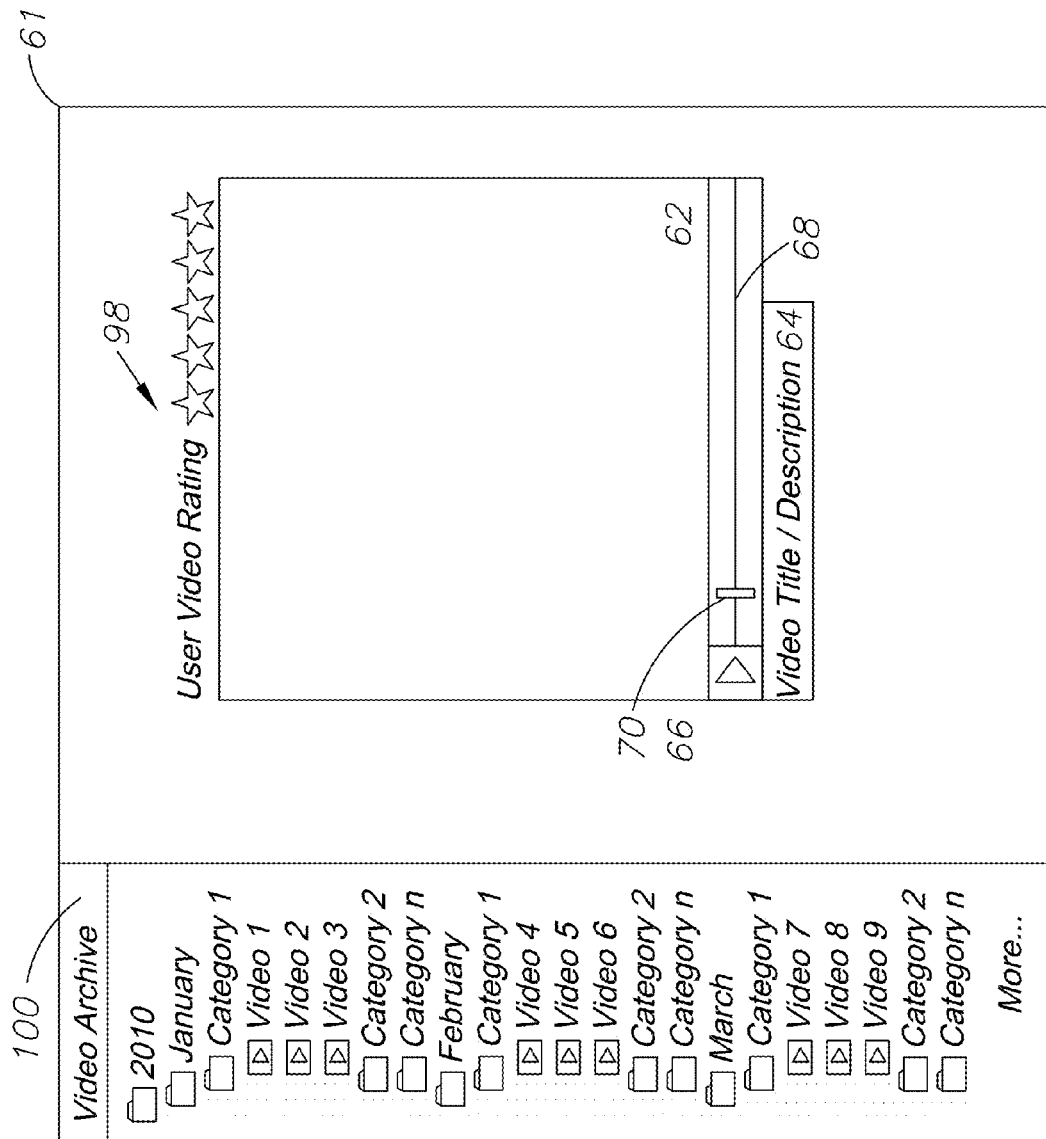


FIG. 4

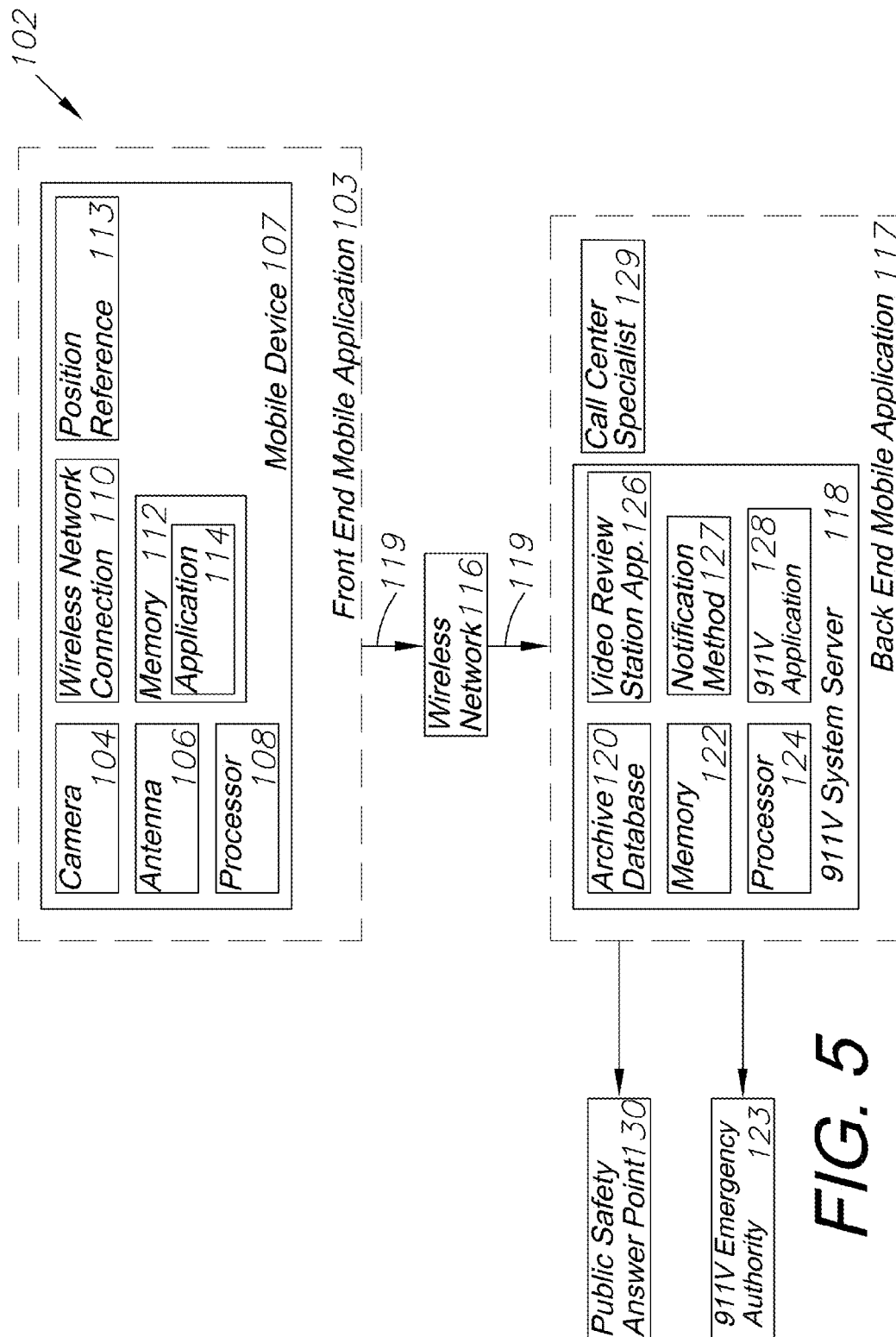
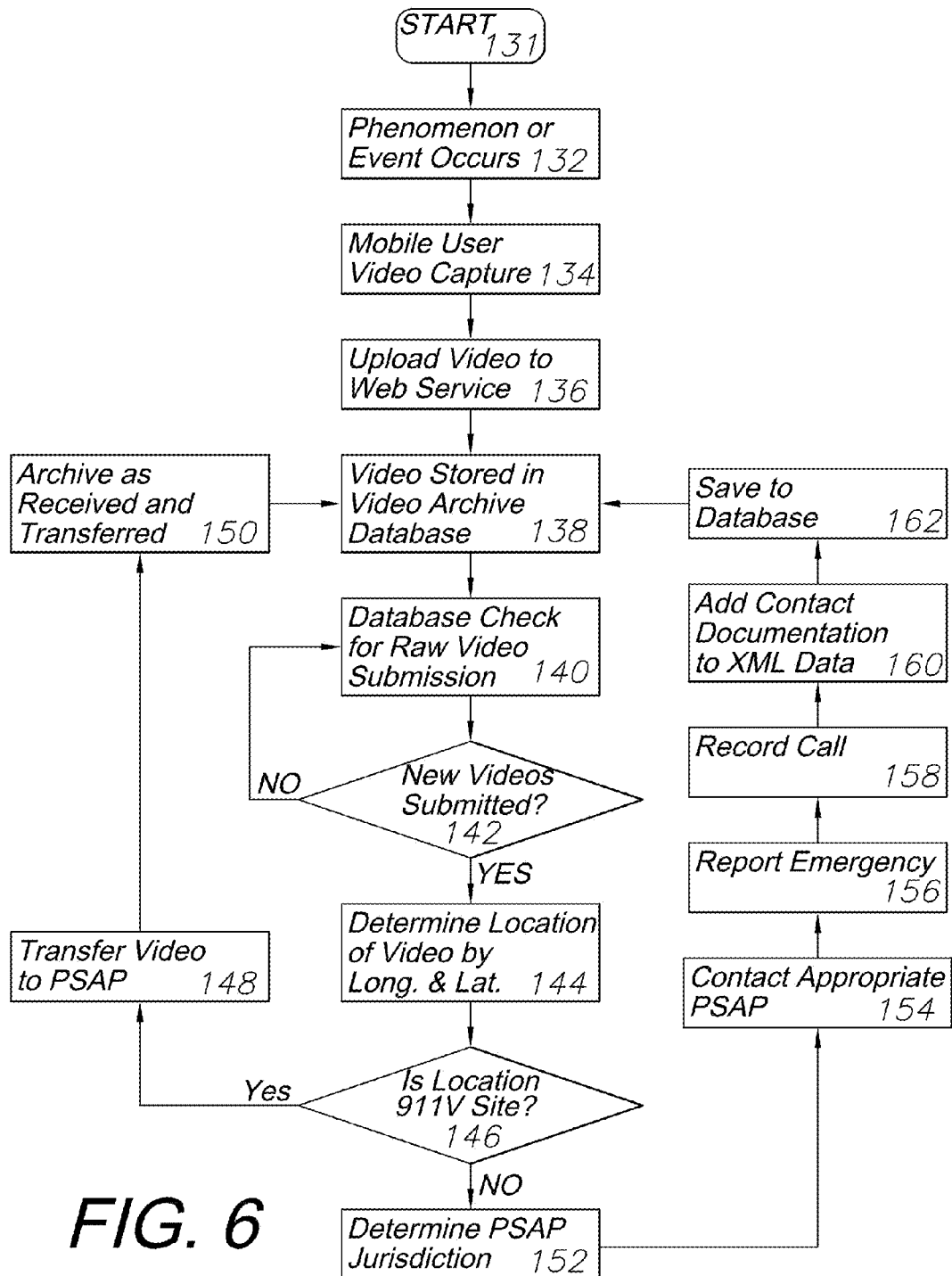


FIG. 5





# GEO-LOCATION VIDEO ARCHIVE SYSTEM AND METHOD

## CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a continuation of and claims priority in U.S. patent application Ser. No. 13/412,359, filed Mar. 5, 2012, now U.S. Pat. No. 8,880,718, which claims priority in U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 61/448,997, filed Mar. 3, 2011, and is related to AUTOMATED BIOMETRIC IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM (ABIS) AND METHOD, U.S. patent application Ser. No. 13/412,512, filed Mar. 5, 2012, which claims priority in U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 61/448,972, filed Mar. 3, 2011, and is also related to AUTOMATED BIOMETRIC SUBMISSION AND IMPROVED SCANNING SYSTEM AND METHOD, U.S. patent application Ser. No. 13/095,601, filed Apr. 27, 2011, which claims priority in U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 61/328,305, filed Apr. 27, 2010, all of which are incorporated herein by reference.

## BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

### 1. Field of the Invention

The present disclosed technology relates generally to a system and method for recording, uploading, and utilizing video recorded in real-time, and specifically to a front-end and back-end video archival system and method using video recorded in real-time to aid in emergency or weather response.

### 2. Description of the Related Art

Digitally watermarking or embedding data into recorded video is well known in the art. Modern mobile phones, digital cameras, and other mobile devices are capable of recording video anywhere a user is located, and uploading that video to common video archive websites, such as youtube.com. These mobile devices may also include GPS functionality, allowing the video to be tagged with location data and other relevant data so that anyone who ultimately views the video can determine where and when a video was taken.

Presently, such mobile user-submitted videos may be uploaded to video archival or video sharing networks, but the value of the embedded video data is typically underused. For instance, a video may be uploaded to a publicly available video archive database where numerous end users are able to view the video, but the video may not be used immediately and the relevance of the time and location of the video that has been uploaded loses value.

Typical video archive databases either include embedded video data as an afterthought, or limit the access of that data to selected users. One such example of selective use of video data is U.S. Pat. No. 7,633,914 to Shaffer et al. (the '914 patent). Although video data may be uploaded and used for assessing critical security or other means in the geographic area of the video data, the '914 patent relies on users who have already accessed "virtual talk groups" to upload relevant video data. That video data is then only immediately accessible to members of the same virtual talk groups, which limits the effectiveness of the video data to a small number of users.

Embedded video or photograph data is also used by police departments for accurate evidence collection. U.S. Pat. No. 7,487,112 to Barnes, Jr. (the "112 patent") describes this ability, but limits the use of the uploaded video or photographic data to the police department. Video or photographic data uploaded to the collection server is stored and not immediately used in any capacity. Such a technique merely simpli-

fies the tasks of a police officer during evidence collection and does not fully embrace the value of embedded video data.

What is needed is a system which provides mobile users the ability to record video with embedded data, upload that video to a commonly accessible database where the video may be immediately reviewed, and any particular value that can be gathered from the uploaded video be submitted to emergency crews or other relevant parties for immediate review of the recently uploaded video. Heretofore there has not been a video archival system or method with the capabilities of the invention presented herein.

## SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Disclosed herein in an exemplary embodiment is a system and method for uploading and archiving video recordings, including a front-end and a back-end application.

The preferred embodiment of the present invention includes a front-end application wherein video is recorded using a mobile device. The recorded video is embedded with date, time and GPS location data.

The video is stored on an online back-end database which catalogues the video according to the embedded data elements. The video may be selectively reviewed by relevant experts or emergency personnel for immediate response to the uploaded video and/or distribution to the proper parties. The video may also be archived for later review and use by any number of end-users.

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The drawings constitute a part of this specification and include exemplary embodiments of the disclosed subject matter illustrating various objects and features thereof, wherein like references are generally numbered alike in the several views.

FIG. 1 is a block diagram showing the relationship between the various elements of the preferred embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 2 is a flowchart showing the practice of a method of the preferred embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 3 is a diagram illustrative of a user interface for viewing videos on a computer utilizing the preferred embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 4 is a diagram illustrative of a user interface for viewing archived video associated with the preferred embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 5 is a block diagram showing the relationship between various elements of an alternative embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 6 is a flowchart showing the practice of a method of an alternative embodiment of the present invention.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

### I. Introduction and Environment

As required, detailed aspects of the disclosed subject matter are disclosed herein; however, it is to be understood that the disclosed aspects are merely exemplary of the invention, which may be embodied in various forms. Therefore, specific structural and functional details disclosed herein are not to be interpreted as limiting, but merely as a basis for the claims and as a representative basis for teaching one skilled in the art how to variously employ the present invention in virtually any appropriately detailed structure.

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Certain terminology will be used in the following description for convenience in reference only and will not be limiting. For example, a personal computer including a display device for viewing a typical web browser or user interface will be commonly referred to throughout the following description. The type of computer, display, or user interface may vary when practicing an embodiment of the present invention.

A preferred embodiment of the present invention relies on a front-end mobile application 3 associated with a mobile personal computing device 7, such as a mobile phone, personal digital assistant, or other hand-held computing-capable device. The mobile personal computing device 7 must access a wireless network 16. A back-end mobile application 17 may be accessed via any personal computing device with capable access to a network, such as the World Wide Web.

## II. Geo-Location Video Archive System and Method

Referring to the drawings in more detail, reference numeral 2 generally refers to a geo-location video archive system, comprising a front-end mobile application 3, a back-end mobile application 17, and an end user 30.

FIG. 1 demonstrates the relationship between the front-end application 3, the back-end application 17, a wireless network 16, and an end user 30. The front-end application 3 is comprised of a mobile device 7. This mobile device 7 may be any hand held mobile device capable of recording and uploading video data via the wireless network 16 to a database server 18 utilized by the back-end application 17.

The mobile device 7 includes a camera 4 or other video capture ability capable of recording either still or video images, an antenna 6, a processor 8, a wireless network connection 10, a memory 12 storing an application 14, and a position reference 13.

The antenna 6 is capable of receiving and transmitting data over a wireless network 16, such as image data recorded by the camera 4. The processor 8 is adapted for processing all data required by the mobile device. The wireless network connection 10 allows the mobile device 7 to access the wireless network 16 for transmission and reception of data. The memory 12 stores all data necessary for the function of the mobile device 7, including image data recorded by the camera 4. An application 14 for accessing the back-end mobile application 17 via the wireless network 16 is stored on the memory. The position reference 13 includes optional two-dimensional or three-dimensional positional information about the mobile device 7. This positional reference 13 may optionally be attached to image data recorded with the camera 4.

The primary purpose of the mobile application 7 is to capture high resolution video by use of the mobile device's 7 camera 4. The application 14 will collect video in one to ten second slices and transmit it with related data. This data may include Global Positioning System (GPS) location in the form of Longitude and Latitude, Date and Time stamp, description of up to 140 characters, as well as declination based upon magnetic or true north that will be packaged in an XML-formatted file with the phone's ID and a user name. Combined with the video slice, the mobile application will send a "packet" 19 to the database server 18.

The back-end mobile application 17 is comprised of a database server 18 which serves to receive all data submitted by mobile devices 7 included in the front-end application 3, and an optional subject matter expert (expert) 29 capable of reviewing submitted data for real-time use and organized archiving.

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The database server 18 further includes an archive database 20, a memory 22, a processor 24, a video review station application 26 and a user web application 28. Image data and other data submitted to the database server 18 via the front-end mobile application 3 are stored in the archive database 20. The video review station application 26 is an optional feature that may be included for use by the expert 29 for reviewing submitted image data and other submitted data. The user web application 28 is an optional feature allowing end users 30 to access data uploaded to the database 18 for personal use.

Multiple mobile devices 7 may be incorporated with the front-end mobile application 7. Each front-end application may upload recorded data simultaneously to the database server 18. The database server 18 will receive a transmission packet 19 from various mobile devices 7. If this is a new transmission, the video slice and the metadata will be split from the transmission packet and saved into a storage folder located in the archive database 20. If the packet is a continuation of a current transmission, the video slice will be unpackaged from the packet, and merged with the previously received video slice. In addition the metadata transmitted with the packet will be merged with the current metadata XML. If this is the terminating packet, the video slice will be unpackaged from the packet, and merged with the previously received video slice. In addition, the metadata transmitted with the packet will be merged with the current metadata XML. Once complete, the video file and metadata will be saved into the archive database 20. Finally, a confirmation 27 of the received video can be sent to the mobile device 7, confirming that the video transmission was complete. In turn, this information may be made available to another application, web site, or other end user 30 for whatever needs it may have.

## III. Database Video Upload, Review, and Use

In an embodiment of the present invention, an expert 29 will review video files uploaded to the database server 18 through the video review station application 26. The video review station application 26 will collect video from the front-end application 3. The application will gather the videos corresponding XML metadata and display the information for the expert 29. This will include items such as date, time, location, and video length. The expert 29 will then tag the event as a category that best describes the video (i.e. tornado, flood, thunder storm), apply search keywords, and modify the description as needed. The expert 29 will then, using a set of defined standards, grade the video, such as on a rating of one to five "stars." As examples, five stars may indicate: the highest quality video; video of devastating weather; or video meeting predefined quality definitions. At this time the video can be rejected if it does not meet video submission related requirements. Once this process has been completed, the expert 29 will save the video and corresponding XML to the proper database tables, making it available for searching.

FIG. 2 demonstrates the practice of the above method in more detail. This will start at 31 when a phenomenon or event occurs at 32. A mobile user will use their mobile device to capture video of the event at 34 and will upload that video to the database server at 36. As explained above, the video will be uploaded in slices and will be saved to the archive database at 38 for further review.

The database will check for raw video submissions at 40 and will determine if a new video has been uploaded or submitted to the server at 42. If no new video data has been uploaded or submitted, the process continues checking the database for new submissions.

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Upon detecting a new video submission, the video will be transferred to the expert for review at **44**. The expert checks to determine if the video meets the back-end application requirements at **46**. These requirements may include video relevance, video quality, and whether similar videos have already been uploaded for a single event. If the video does not meet all requirements, the video is marked as “rejected” at **48**, saved into a non-searchable database table at **50**, and stored in the video archive database at **38**.

If the expert determines that the video meets all requirements, the expert will then grade the video based on standard operating procedures at **52**. The video will be categorized at **54** to allow for easy searching of the video through the user web application. Categories may include video location, event description, or other defining terms that will allow end users to easily search for and find the relevant video. Searchable keywords are also added to the video at **56**, which will simplify the video search that will return the particular video being reviewed. The video description will be modified at **58**, if needed. This may be performed if, for example, the mobile user who uploaded the video incorrectly described the video in question. Finally, the video will be saved to searchable database tables at **60** and stored in the video archive database at **38**.

#### IV. Video Archive Service User Software

FIGS. **3** and **4** show the typical interface an end user **30** may see when accessing the user web application **28**. The user web application **28** allows all end users **30** to have access to all reviewed and archived videos available.

In the preferred embodiment, the interface is accessed through a personal computer via the World Wide Web or some other accessible network. FIG. **3** shows a window **61** will be accessed by the end user **30**. The window **61** includes a video playback **62** including a video title **64**, a play/pause button **66**, a play-back progress bar **68** and a progress slider **70**.

Additional data uploaded along with the video data may be included in the window **61**. This data may include location information about the video, such as longitude **72**, latitude **74**, city **76**, state **78**, and country **80**. Additionally, date **82**, time **84**, and device ID data **86** may be uploaded and stored, embedded within the video data at the time the video was captured. Each of these terms will allow users to find applicable videos relating to what they are searching.

A description **88** of the video, which may be written by the original mobile user or by the expert **29**, is included in the window, along with a series of search keywords **90** assigned by the expert **29**. The end user **30** has the option of saving the video which results from the user’s search at **92**. The video may be stored locally on the end user’s machine, or could be stored to the end user’s profile so that the user may later return to the searched video. The end user **30** may also perform a new search **94**, including previous search terms with new terms added, or the user may clear the search **96** and start a completely new search.

FIG. **4** shows an alternative search window **61**. Here, the end user **30** is capable of viewing the entire archived database list **100**. In the example shown by FIG. **4**, the video archive list **100** organizes the video by date and category, allowing the end user **30** to browse through all videos uploaded and saved to the database.

Along with the video playback **62**, video title **62**, play/pause button **66**, play-back progress bar **68** and progress slider **70**, the window **61** includes a user video rating **98**. This rating may be assigned by the expert **29** or by end users **30** who visit the site, view the video, and rate the video. The

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rating will allow future users to determine if there may be a better video to watch, depending on what they may be looking for.

#### V. Weather Video Archive Application

In one embodiment of the present invention, the video uploaded to the database **20** relates to current weather occurring somewhere in the world. The mobile user records video of real-time weather activity with a mobile device **7**, uploads this weather video to the database server **18** where it is reviewed by an expert **29**, and the weather video is placed into the archive database **20** where it may be reviewed by end users **30** through the user web application **28**. This allows end users to view an up-to-date weather video of any location where mobile users are uploading video from, including in the end user’s immediate vicinity.

The primary section of interest of the user web application **28** will likely be an interactive map display showing various locations of un-archived video and current weather radar overlays. The user will have the ability to select the grade of video that is displayed on the map. Notifications of videos relating to specific locations will appear on the map as an overlay to indicate the location the video was captured. Hovering over the notifications will allow a brief time lapsed preview of the accompanying video. Activating the notifications will display the full video in a window **61**. At this point the user will have the ability to download the full video, copy link information to embed in a web site, or other video functionality.

#### VI. 911-V Alternative Embodiment

An alternative embodiment video upload and archive system **102** encompasses the use of a back-end application **117** that will take video collected from a front-end mobile application **103**, determine its location via longitude and latitude, and upload that information to a 911V system server **118**. If the location where the video has been recorded is within a current 911V application **128** site software installation, the video is automatically routed to the appropriate emergency authority **123**. If the location corresponds to a 911V application **128** site participant, the video is automatically submitted to that 911V emergency authority **123** with the location where the video was recorded. This will allow the site to immediately dispatch emergency services as needed based upon what is shown on the video.

If the location is not a participant in 911V, a call center specialist **129** contacts the appropriate public safety answer point (PSAP) **130** jurisdiction, based upon the actual location determined by the longitude and latitude embedded in the submitted video. The call center specialist **129** will have the ability to email the video submitted to the 911V system **118** to the PSAP **130** for review. All 911 or 911V contact information will be saved to the videos corresponding XML metadata, for future audits and investigations if needed.

FIG. **5** is a block diagram showing the interaction between the elements of the front-end mobile application **103** and the back-end mobile application **117**. The front-end application **103** is comprised of a mobile device **107** including a camera **104** or other image recording device, an antenna **106**, a processor **108**, a wireless network connection **110**, memory **112** including a stored application **114**, and a position reference **113**. As in the preferred embodiment, the mobile device **107** records an event with the camera **104** and transmits video data via packets **119** through a wireless network **116** to the back-end mobile application **117**. Position reference **113** is neces-

sarily included with the uploaded video packet **119** to determine where the recorded emergency is occurring and to contact the correct authorities.

The back-end mobile application **117** is comprised of a 911V system server **118** and call center specialist **129**. The server **118** further includes an archive database **120**, memory **122**, a processor **124**, a video review station application **126**, a notification method **127**, and the 911V application **128**. The call center specialist **129** may review incoming video data and direct the video to the nearest PSAP **130**, or the 911V application **128** will determine the location of the uploaded video data, determine the proper notification method **127**, and automatically forward it to the nearest 911V emergency authority **123**.

FIG. 6 demonstrates the practice of a method of the alternative embodiment. The method starts at **131** with an emergency phenomenon or event occurring at **132**. A mobile user possessing a mobile device capable of recording and uploading video data captures the video data of the emergency at **134** and uploads it to the 911V web service at **136**. Video slices are stored in the video archive database at **138** as they are uploaded, and the system database checks for newly submitted raw video data at **140**. If no new video is submitted between checks at **142**, the process repeats until new video is detected.

Once new video is detected at **142**, the system determines the location of the video by longitude and latitude at **144**. The system determines whether the location of the uploaded video is a 911V site at **146**.

If the site where the video was recorded is located in a 911V site, the video is transferred to the PSAP at **148** and archived as “received and transferred” at **150** and stored in the video archived database at **138**.

If, however, the location where the video was recorded is not a 911V site, the call center specialist or the system itself will determine the appropriate PSAP jurisdiction to handle the reported emergency at **152**. The proper PSAP is contacted at **154** and the emergency is reported at **156**, including recording the call at **158** and adding contact documentation to the existing XML data at **160**. All of this data is saved to the database at **162** and stored in the video archive database at **138**.

It will be appreciated that the geo-location video archive system can be used for various other applications. Moreover, the geo-location video archive system can be compiled of additional elements or alternative elements to those mentioned herein, while returning similar results.

It is to be understood that while certain aspects of the disclosed subject matter have been shown and described, the disclosed subject matter is not limited thereto and encompasses various other embodiments and aspects.

Having thus described the disclosed subject matter, what is claimed as new and desired to be secured by Letters Patent is:

**1.** A video archival system comprising:

a computer network capable of receiving and transmitting data;

a plurality of mobile personal computing devices, each including a camera configured for collecting video data, an antenna, a processor, memory storage storing a front-end mobile application, and a positional reference device;

said mobile personal computing devices wirelessly connected to said computer network such that it is capable of delivering data from said mobile device to said network;

a stationary computing device including a database server with memory storage storing a back-end mobile application, a processor, and an archive database;

said stationary computing device connected to said computer network such that it is capable of delivering data from said mobile device to said network;

an emergency services dispatch application connected to said network and configured for dispatching emergency services;

multiple site software installations installed on each said mobile computing device, each said site software installation configured for identifying a respective site location;

wherein data slices including said video data are transmitted from said plurality of multiple personal computing devices to said computer network and are received by said stationary computing device and stored onto said archive database in said front-end mobile application of said system;

characteristic data embedded into each of said data slices, said characteristic data capable of identifying the mobile personal computing device from which said data slice originated;

wherein said data slices are stored in said archive database based upon which mobile device originated said data slices;

a computing device including a video review back-end application wherein said video data is categorized, and results of said categorization are embedded into said video data;

said computing device video review back-end application including a determination of location via longitude and latitude using video data collected from said front-end mobile application;

said computing device video review back-end application determining if the video data is within a current said site software installation and routing the video data to an appropriate emergency authority with the location of said current site software installation; and

if said video data is not within a current site software installation, said system routing the recorded video data to a call center specialist for contacting an appropriate public safety answer point jurisdiction for an emergency response based upon the location of the submitted video data.

**2.** The system of claim **1**, wherein said slices are stored such that adjacent sections of captured video-data are contiguous.

**3.** The video archival system of claim **1**, further comprising:

wherein said camera is capable of capturing high-resolution video data; and

wherein said high-resolution video data is stored onto said mobile personal computing device memory.

**4.** The video archival system of claim **3**, further comprising:

said high-resolution video data recorded and stored in slices;

said first mobile application adapted to instruct said mobile personal computing device to transmit said slices to said computer network; and

said stationary computing device adapted to receive said slices from said computer network and stores those slices onto said archive database.

**5.** The video archival system of claim **1**, further comprising:

wherein said mobile device processor produces date-stamp and time-stamp data when said high-resolution video data is captured; and

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wherein said date-stamp and time-stamp data are embedded into said high-resolution video data at the moment said video is captured.

6. The video archival system of claim 5, further comprising:

wherein said positional reference device is a global positioning system (GPS) capable of reporting geographic coordinates; and

wherein the GPS coordinates of said mobile personal computing device are embedded into said high-resolution video data at the moment said video is captured.

7. The video archival system of claim 1, further comprising:

a remote user application stored on said stationary computing device and accessible by remote users connected to said computer network; and

wherein said video data uploaded to said archive database is accessible and viewable by said users at remote locations.

8. A computer implemented method of archiving data, the method comprising the steps:

capturing location specific data with one or more of a plurality of mobile personal computing devices, each said device including a camera configured for collecting video data, an antenna, a processor, memory storage storing a front-end mobile application, and a positional reference device;

connecting said mobile computing devices with a stationary computing device via a computer network, said stationary computing device including a database server with memory storage storing a back-end mobile application, a processor, and an archive database;

transmitting said mobile data from said mobile devices to said computer network;

receiving said mobile data from said computer network with said stationary computing device;

storing said mobile data onto said archive database;

embedding characteristic data embedded into each of said slices, said characteristic data capable of identifying the mobile personal computing device from which said slice originated;

storing said slices in said archive database based upon which mobile device said slices originated;

providing a computing device including a video review back-end application wherein said video data is categorized and inspected by an expert, and results of said categorization and inspection are embedded into said video data;

said computing device video review back-end application including a determination of location via longitude and latitude using video data collected from said front-end mobile application;

providing an emergency services dispatch application connected to said network and configured for dispatching emergency services;

providing multiple site software installations installed on each said mobile computing device, each said site software installation configured for identifying a respective site location;

said computing device video review back-end application determining if the video is within a current site software installation and routing the video data to an appropriate emergency authority with the location; and

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if said video is not within a current site software installation, said system routing the recorded video to a call center specialist for contacting an appropriate public safety answer point jurisdiction for an emergency response based upon the location of the submitted video data.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein said slices are stored such that adjacent sections of captured video-data are contiguous.

10. The method according to claim 8, wherein said camera is capable of capturing high-resolution video data, the method further comprising the step:

storing high-resolution video data onto said mobile personal computing device memory.

11. The method according to claim 10, further comprising the steps:

transmitting said high-resolution video data from said mobile device in a plurality of slices, wherein each slice contains between one and ten seconds of video data; and storing said slices onto said archive database.

12. The method according to claim 11, further comprising the steps:

embedding characteristic data into said slices, said characteristic data identifying the mobile personal computing device from which said slice originated; storing said slices in said archive database based upon which mobile device said slices originated; and storing said slices such that adjacent portions of captured video-data are contiguous.

13. The method according to claim 12, further comprising the steps:

producing date-stamp and time-stamp data at the time said high-resolution video is captured; and embedding said date-stamp and time-stamp data into said high-resolution video data.

14. The method according to claim 13, wherein said positional reference device is a global positioning system (GPS) capable of reporting geographic coordinates, the method further comprising the steps:

producing GPS coordinates using said positional reference device; and embedding said GPS coordinates into said high-resolution video data.

15. The method according to claim 12, further comprising the steps:

providing a video review application capable of accessing said high-resolution video data; providing access to said video review application to an expert; receiving categorization and inspection data from said expert; and embedding said categorization and inspection data into said high-resolution video data.

16. The method according to claim 12, further comprising the steps:

providing a remote user application; storing said remote user application onto said stationary computing device memory storage; providing access to said remote user application to a plurality of remote users; and

allowing stored high-resolution video data to be viewed by said remote users via said user application.

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